

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 OIC-02 L-03 FRB-03
OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05
CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 EPG-02
SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 NEA-10 /085 W
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P R 031310IWRWTSUU
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 947
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 5185

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRD UNCTAD GR
SUBJECT: FIRST UNCTAD PREPARATORY CONFERENCE ON COTTON: GREEK
POSIT
ION

REF: STATE 119870

1. AS REQUESTED REFTEL, EMBASSY DISCUSSED GREEK VIEWS ON
UNCTAD COTTON CONFERENCE TO BE HELD JUNE 20-24 IN GENEVA
WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL IN FOREIGN MINISTRY.

2. REPLIES QGMA
NSTIONS IN REFTEL ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. GOG HAS NOT YET FORMULATED ITS DELEGATION TO THE
CONFERENCE: HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF
COTTON TO GREECE, FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPECTS IT WILL
INCLUDE BOTH EXPERTS FROM THE COTTON BOARD AND DIPLOMATIC
REPRESENTATIVES.

B. ACCORDING TO FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, GREECE, AS A
SMALL COUNTRY, GENERALLY DOES NOT FAVOR COMMODITY AGREEMENTS.

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HOWEVER, THE GREEK DELEGATION WILL ATTEND THE
CONFERENCE UNCOMMITTED, WITH AN OPEN MIND TOWARDS
PROPOSALS OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

C. GREECE AGREES WITH US VIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL

COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE, I.E. THAT IT IS A USEFUL ORGANIZATION WHICH SHOULD CONTINUE AS A FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS ON COTTON.

3. THE FOLLOWING FIGURES ON COTTON PRODUCTION AND DISPOSITION IN GREECE MAY BE OF INTEREST. GREECE IS A COTTON PRODUCER, BUT DUE TO RAPID GROWTH IN GREECE'S DOMESTIC TEXTILE INDUSTRY OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, EXPORTS HAVE DROPPED CONSIDERABLY. IN 1976, GREEK MANUFACTURERS USED 123,026 MT OF COTTON, OF WHICH 111,983 MT WERE OF DOMESTIC ORIGIN AND 11,043 MT WERE IMPORTED. IMPORTS OF COTTON IN 1976 TOTALLED 15,604 MT, 3,327 MT FROM EGYPT AND 2,280 MT FROM THE US. EXPORTS OF COTTON IN 1976 ARE ESTIMATED AT 30,581 MT, 8 PERCENT HIGHER THAN 28,249 MT EXPORTED IN 1975. VALUE OF RAW COTTON EXPORTS HAS VERIED FROM YEAR TO YEAR, BUT THE TREND IS DOWNWARDS: FOR EXAMPLE, 1971-\$44 MILLION; 1975-\$31 MILLION, PAYMENT BASIS, F.O.B. KUBISCH

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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